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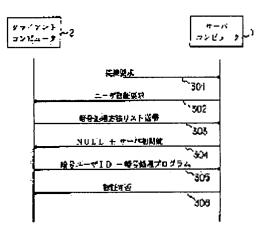
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(54) USER AUTHENTICATION METHOD, SYSTEM THEREFOR AND STORAGE MEDIUM FOR USER **AUTHENTICATION**

(57)Abstract:

PROBLEM TO BE SOLVED: To secure the security of user authentication when a password processing function does not simultaneously exist in a server and a client by ciphering data flowing to a network.

SOLUTION: When a server computer 1 does not has the processing function which is not contained in the list of a password processing method received from a client computer 2, NULL and a server initial key are transmitted to the client computer 2 (\$304). The client computer 2 selects the holding password processing method, generates the password key from the received initial key and a certification identifier which a user inputs, ciphers user ID by using the key and transmits ID and a pertinent password processing program to the server computer 1 (S305). The server computer 1 sequentially generates the password key from the server initial key and the



authentication identifier, recognizes the matching of ciphered user ID with received ciphering user ID by using the key and certifies it (\$306).

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